FEB 0 6 2002 W

Attorney Docket No.: 01-611-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Timmerman et al.

Serial No.: 09/423,572

Filed: November 29, 1999

Title: HEAT-SEALABLE FILTER

MATERIAL WITH BIODEGRAD-

ABLE POLYMERS

Examiner: Cole, E.

Art Unit: 1771

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Amendment and Response is responsive to the Office Action mailed July 5, 2001. A Petition for Three-Month Extension of Time, to and including January 7, 2002 (per 37 C.F.R. §1.7(a), January 5 being a Saturday), along with the required fee for such extension, is being filed concurrently herewith. Also enclosed is an Associate Power of Attorney giving the undersigned the power to act with respect to this Application. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims is requested in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the above-identified application without prejudice as follows: